



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



European Commission for the Control
of Foot-and-Mouth disease

Experience of how the Statement of Intention agreement between neighbouring countries in the region has assisted the response to SAT2

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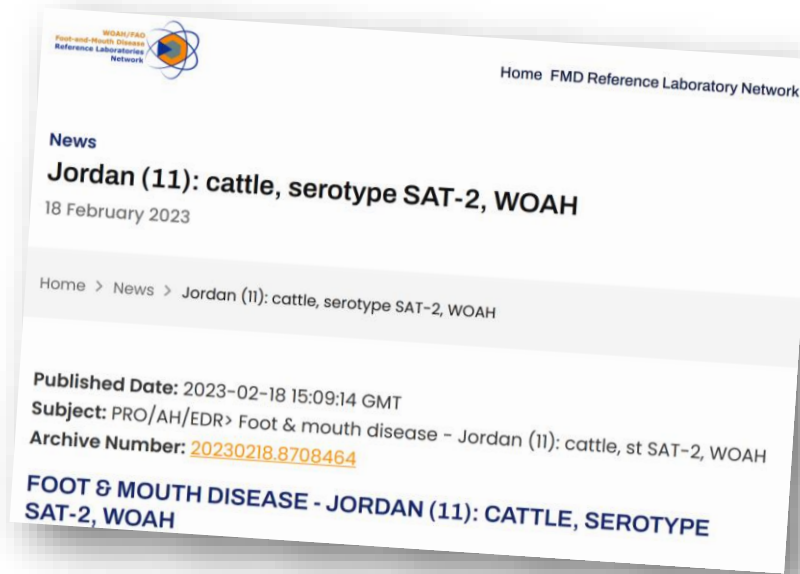
Joint Workshop of the GF-TADs West Eurasia for Foot and Mouth Disease and Peste des Petits Ruminants Regional Roadmap

11-13 November 2025, Dushanbe, Tajikistan



**January
2023**

SAT2/ XIV diagnosed
by SAP & confirmed
by WRL
FAO alert
EuFMD 2-weekly
coordination meetings



**March
2023**



2023 and ongoing

Early January reports
from Iraq, late January
reports from Jordan
EuFMD assists in
sample shipment

**February
2023**

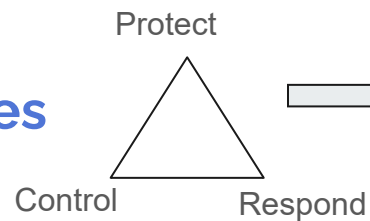
Outbreak reports from
Türkiye, and vaccination
EuFMD diagnostic
support

SAT2 endemic and incl. in
vaccines of the region

Supportive activities by EuFMD under the SOI agreement

EuFMD strategy for FMD control

3 focus objectives



7 key action areas

Protect livestock



Risk monitoring

EuFMD strategy 2023-27



Risk mitigation

EuFMD strategy 2023-27

FAST (FMD and similar TADs) **report** – risk information sharing

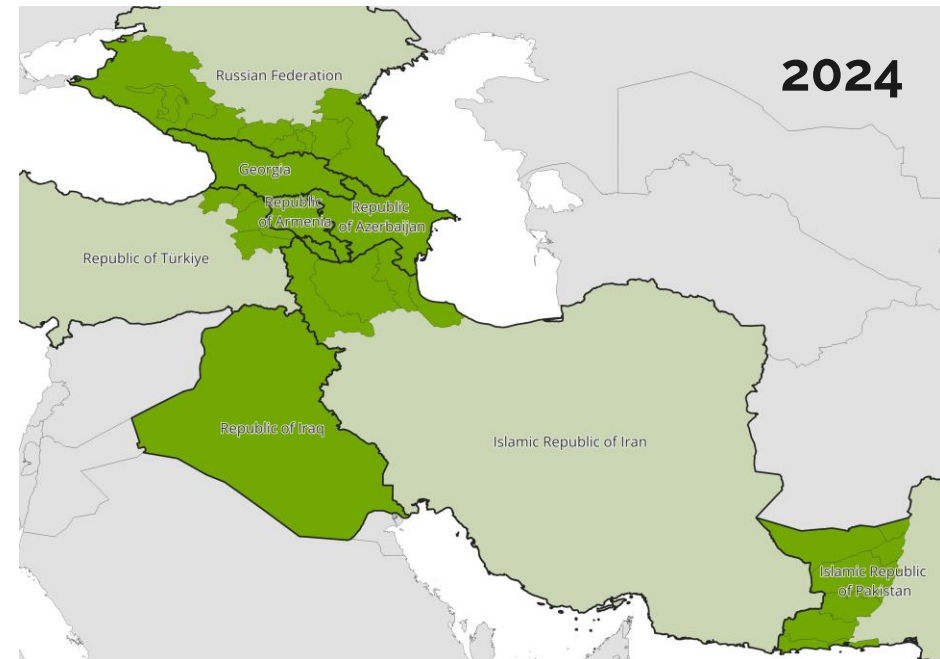
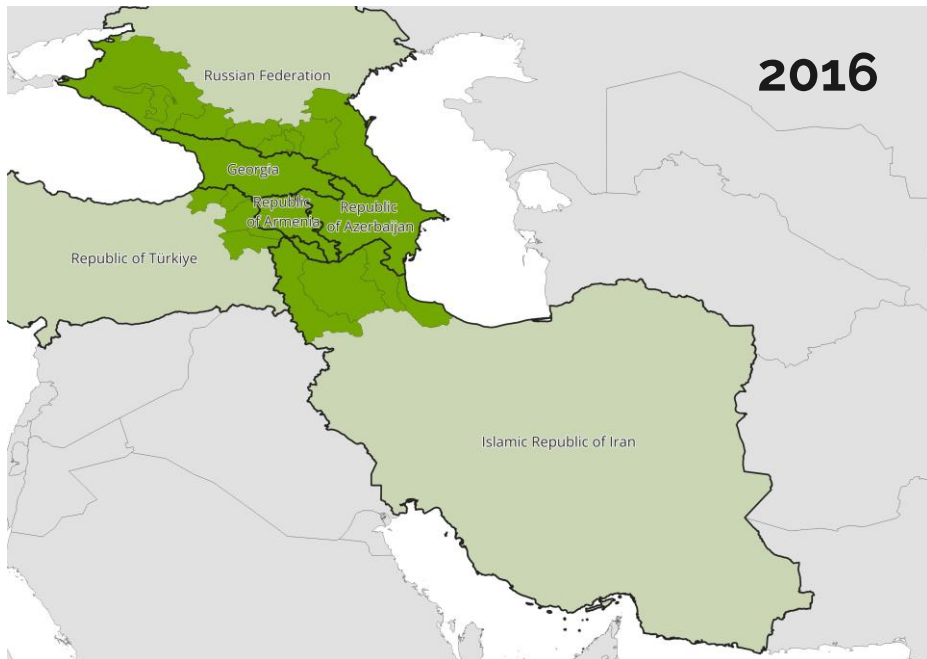
Regional Group for Vaccination Advice, Guidance, and Consultation (GVA) - initiative adopted by EuFMD to improve regional capacities in vaccinology with the aim to assist countries in designing and implementing post-vaccination monitoring and act as a platform to exchange expertise on FAST diseases

Statement of Intentions (SOI) agreement - improve cooperation in preparedness and control of FAST diseases in the Transcaucasus and neighbouring territories



Statement of Intentions (SOI) Agreement

- First agreed upon in 2016 by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Türkiye and the Russian Federation
- In 2024, Iraq and Pakistan were formally included



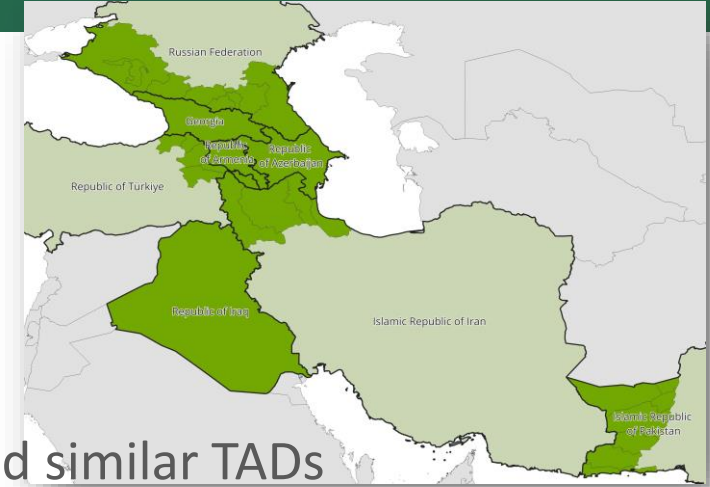
Statement of Intentions (SOI) Agreement

Common vision

- intensified collaboration in the prevention and control of FMD and similar TADs
- improved confidence in effectiveness of control programmes implemented
- reduced risk of epidemics in the region

Included activities

- sharing of risk information
- monitoring and surveillance of FMD and similar TADs
- organization of multi-country simulation exercises
- organization of yearly joint planning committee meetings aimed at reviewing the activities implemented and identifying priorities



Statement of Intentions (SOI) Agreement

Priorities 2025/26

- Maintain and improve **reporting system of outbreaks and vaccinations** and improve **risk information sharing** including digitisation of reporting
- Improve regional understanding of the risks posed by FMD and other FAST diseases and support mitigation efforts
- Progressively implement an **Early Warning surveillance**
- Promote preparedness and control through **participation in training and proficiency tests**
- Monitor the **effectiveness of vaccination** (e.g. SSIS, vaccine strain recommendations)
- Improve national capacities for **risk mapping**



SAT2 activities - diagnostics and vaccination

- Protocol for sample shipment and laboratory support established between Türkiye and Iraq
- Emergency procurement of laboratory kits for SAT2 (Ag ELISA, SP ELISA, PCR reagents for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Türkiye)
- Adaptation and provision of PCR protocol
- Vaccine matching, selection of candidate vaccines, identification of suppliers
- Mediation of dispatch of SAT2 vaccine from the EU vaccine bank to Türkiye and Georgia

Small-scale immunogenicity studies in Trans Caucasus countries

- Vaccination against SAT2 in the region began 2023 and is ongoing
- Small scale immunogenicity studies currently underway in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia
 - Regular FMD vaccines used in region including SAT2 are tested
 - Serum samples will be collected up to 180 days p.v.
 - Sera will be analysed in national laboratories (NSP/ SP ELISAs) and at the IZSLER Brescia (VNT)

SAT2 activities - communication and training

- SAT2 preparedness and control in SEEN: bi-weekly coordination meetings (SEEN countries, EuFMD, FAO, WRLFMD, IZSLER, ARRIAH, Sap), until December 2023.
- Diagnostic and epi trainings:
 - Training on FMD diagnosis, 15-26 May 2023, at IZSLER, for Iraq and Jordan
 - Training on molecular techniques for FMD diagnosis, 3-7 July 2023, at ANSES
 - FMD Investigation training course in Turkish in 2023
- Webinars, incl. FAO SAT2 webinar series, EuFMD & Razi Institute
- Promotion of EuFMD open access courses (incl. Introduction to (1) FMD, (2) FMD Minimum Biorisk Management Standards, (3) Animal Health Surveillance) and non-open access courses (Vaccines, Vaccination and PVM 2023)
- Awareness & information material for countries



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Risk of foot-and-mouth disease SAT2 introduction and spread in countries in the Near East and West Eurasia

FAO QUALITATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT

OCTOBER 2023



SAT2 Rapid risk assessment

by FAO, incl. EuFMD, IZSLT and The Pirbright Institute

Target countries and territories:

Countries/territories with contiguous land border with
affected countries as of 20 August 2023 (Iraq, Jordan,
Türkiye, Oman, Bahrain)

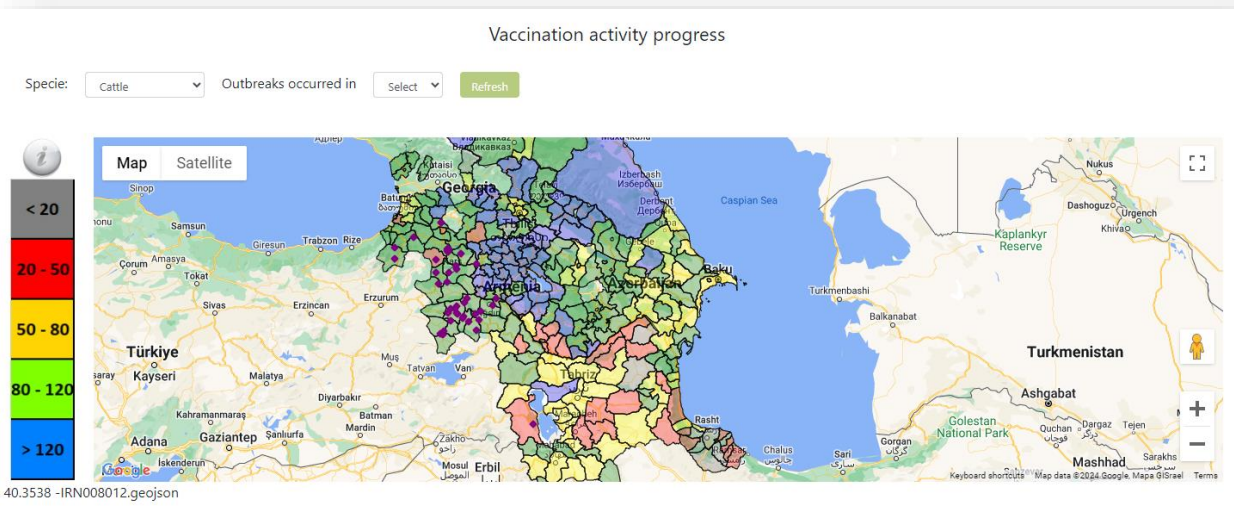
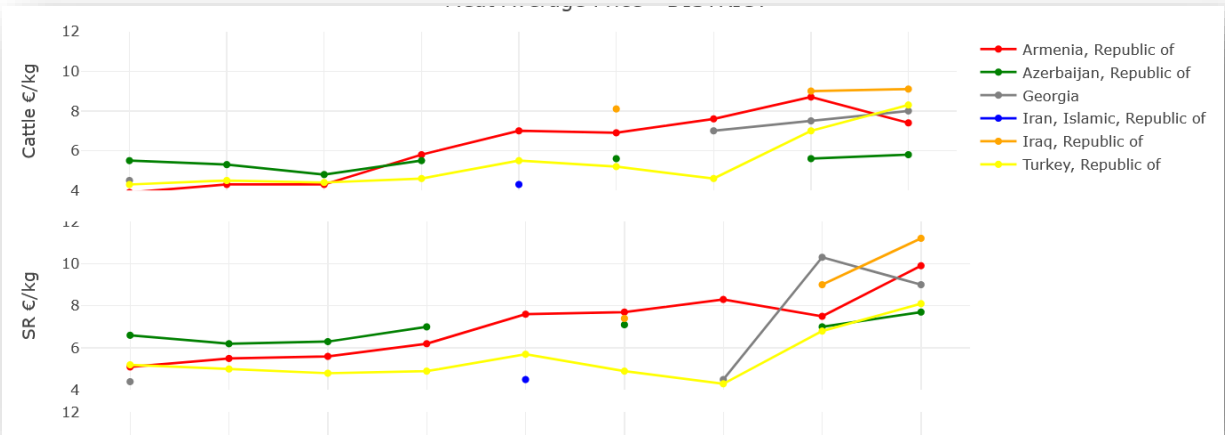
Likelihood and impact analysis

Likelihoods based on questionnaire data from official
veterinary services in the 21 target countries
other data from the literature, FAO STAT

Risk pathways	Likelihoods*	Reasoning	Uncertainty
live animal movement - legal trade	Low - negligible	depending on recent trade activities; control measures in place, in general relatively low volume of trade	Moderate - high
- informal trade	High - negligible	depending on volume of informal trade and FMD status of trade region, emergency SAT2 vaccination in area	High
- common grazing	High - negligible	depending if practiced or not, frequency/ timing, extent of FMD spread, emergency SAT2 vaccination in area	High
legal and informal trade in POAO	Low - negligible	depending on volume of imported POAO; most likely processed	Moderate
movement of wildlife between countries	Low - negligible	focus on wild boars; wild boar population present; SAT2 proximity to border; shared grazing pastures	Low - high
movement of people between countries	Low - negligible	magnitude of people movement accross borders; time SAT2 remains viable on e.g. clothes	High
Legal and informal trade in fodder	Low - negligible	sanitary measures in legal fodder; contamination/survival/contact all need to occur	High
movements of vehicles	Low - negligible	focus on animal transport vehicles; frequency of cross border transport; contamination/survival/contact all need to occur	High

SOI database

- Monthly reporting of outbreaks of FMD and other FAST diseases including email notification of reported outbreaks
- 3-monthly reporting of progress of vaccination and market prices for livestock and meat



Summary of the outbreaks registered				
Year	Country	Specie	Serotype	Number
2016	Armenia, Republic of	CATTLE	A	1
2017	Iran, Islamic, Republic of	SMALL RUMINANTS	--	1
2017	Turkey, Republic of	CATTLE	A	11
2017	Turkey, Republic of	CATTLE	O	16
2017	Turkey, Republic of	CATTLE	PCR(+)	2
2017	Turkey, Republic of	SMALL RUMINANTS	A	1
2017	Turkey, Republic of	SMALL RUMINANTS	O	1
2018	Turkey, Republic of	CATTLE	O	9
2018	Turkey, Republic of	CATTLE	PCR(+)	2

FAST Report - reporting of outbreaks and vaccinations/ risk information sharing

- Published quarterly since 2020
- Structure:
 - Summary of significant events and information
 - Tables with outbreaks, vaccination & control, epi information, surveillance
- Digital version will be available in 2026



Group for Vaccination Advice, Guidance and Consultation (GVA)

- 6-monthly GVA meetings with SEEN countries
- Post vaccination monitoring and small-scale immunogenicity studies
 - Evaluation of immune response to FMD vaccines
 - Assessment of vaccine quality and suitability



- Meeting with vaccine manufacturers to discuss SAT1 vaccine availability and evidence of efficacy, June 2025

Take-home messages

1. Regional and international collaboration accelerates response
2. Established communication channels make a difference
3. Vaccine preparedness and monitoring are critical
4. Digital and data-driven tools can enhance transparency
5. Continued political commitment is vital